



Specialty Crop Production Entrepreneurship

Example Application

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Proficiency

TENNESSEE



Place Label Here

CHAPTER #: TN0000STATE: TNMember ID # 511111111

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

Name of Proficiency Award Area

1. Name: Paul White
2. Date of Birth: 12/26/1985 3. Age: 17
4. Gender: X Male Female 5. Social Security #: 000-00-0000
6. Address: (street/R.R./box no.) 5746 Anywhere Rd.
- City: Anywhere State: Tennessee Zip: 55555
7. Home Telephone number (including area code): 555-555-1111
8. Name of Parents/Guardians 9. List Parents/Guardians Occupation Below:
- a. Father: John White Farmer
- b. Mother: Demetria White Claims Specialist
10. Complete FFA Chapter Name: Anywhere FFA
11. Name of High School: Anywhere High School
12. School Address: (street/RR./box no.) 158 Kilgore Trace
- School City: Anywhere State: Tennessee School Zip: 55555
13. School Telephone Number (including area code): 555-555-2222
14. Chapter Advisor(s): Barry Baker / Tom Strother
15. Year FFA Membership Began: 2000
16. Years of Agricultural Education Completed: 2.5
17. Years of Agricultural Education Offered (grades 7-12) in high school last attended: 4
18. Year in school at time of applying for the award: Junior
19. If you have graduated from the high school, year graduated:
20. State/National Dues paid? NO YES Yes

We have examined this application and find that the records are true, accurate, and complete. We hereby permit for publicity purposes, the use of any information included in this application with the exception of the following:

Candidate Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature

In addition, we certify the applicant has achieved a satisfactory record of scholastic achievement.

Chapter Advisor Signature

 Superintendent or Principal Signature
 (indicate which)

The information contained in this application has been substantiated by an actual visit to the site of the applicant's supervised agricultural experience program.

Employer Signature (if applicable)

State Supervisor, Ag Ed, Signature

NOTICE: This application will not be returned by the National FFA Organization. Please make a copy for your records.

I. Performance Review

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

A. Getting Started in this activity:

(15)

1. Briefly describe your SAE as it is related to this proficiency area. Describe how you started in this proficiency area. What interested and motivated you to begin?

My SAE is entrepreneurship enterprises of burley and dark-fired tobacco. This past year the scope of my SAE was 4 acres of burley and 1.5 acres of dark-fired tobacco. My SAE started in the fall of 2000 and at that time I had 1 acre of burley and 1 acre of dark-fired tobacco. I have been able to expand my SAE by leasing additional burley poundage and dark-fired acreage. My father has raised tobacco for as long as I can remember and my first memory of helping him was as a small boy picking up leaves during cutting time. As I grew older, I had increased jobs such as setting, plowing, topping, oiling, cutting, and housing. The summer of 1998 was the first time that I had my own tobacco crop. My father agreed to let me raise .5 acres of burley and that year I paid for all my expenses after I sold my burley. Since that first crop, I have used the previous year's profits to fund my tobacco crop although I continue to help my father in his tobacco to pay for use of land, some barn space, and some equipment. Growing up around tobacco is probably the reason for my motivation. Tobacco production in our community is a tradition and just seems like a normal way of life to me. I also enjoy the fact that I can be outside and that I am working for myself.

2. When you were planning your supervised agricultural experience in this proficiency area, what 2 or 3 goals and objectives did you plan to achieve at this point in your development?

Goal # 1 - My main goal as it relates to my SAE centers around my desire to farm fulltime when I graduate from high school. In our area, tobacco is the main source of farm income and my goal has been to expand my SAE in the area of tobacco production so that I can save as much money as possible before I graduate and maybe be in the position to buy a small farm. I realize that tobacco may not be an option in the future of farming so I want to take as much advantage of its income while possible.

Goal # 2 - My main goal can only be accomplished if I produce a quality tobacco leaf that has good weight. In order to accomplish this goal I have to learn management techniques associated with production. Some of these production techniques include selecting tobacco varieties, determining fertilizer requirements, selecting and applying chemicals for weed, insect, disease, and sucker control, applying good transplanting, topping, oiling, cutting, housing, and curing techniques, and learning how to grade tobacco according to buyer specifications.

Goal # 3 - Another goal of mine has been to excel in the FFA. I have had neighbors and friends who have been very successful in our chapter and listening to their stories and seeing the awards they won has always made an impression on me. I realize that my SAE will allow me to accomplish several of my FFA goals.

B. Progress:

1. Describe any special advantages or disadvantages that had a major impact on your achievements in your supervised agricultural experience program.

Advantages -

1. My father has been a tobacco producer for many years and having equipment available to me was very important when I began raising tobacco for myself.
2. My father and neighbors have been a great source of information on production techniques. I have always had easy access to information which has assisted me in developing good production skills.
3. Being able to participate in the Ag Co-op Program at high school has allowed me to spend extra time on my SAE. This was very important since school started because of cutting, housing, curing, and stripping.

Disadvantages -

1. Tobacco is very sensitive to weather extremes and prolonged dry conditions creates additional labor because of having to set up irrigation.
2. The added cost of leasing poundage for burley and acreage for dark-fired has reduced my profits somewhat.

B. Progress (continued)

2. Explain how resources such as livestock, land, buildings, equipment, machinery, supplies and labor are obtained and utilized in this proficiency area.

The 4 acres of burley and 1.5 acres of dark-fired tobacco is all leased poundage and acreage which I pay for myself. I have grown my tobacco on our place and I pay for the use of land by providing labor in my father's tobacco. I also swap labor for use of some of my father's equipment. I purchase tobacco plugs from Anywhere Greenhouse which is a local plug producer. I buy the plugs and place them on float beds until they are ready to transplant. I use a two row carousel tobacco setter which is owned jointly between my father and myself. I also have a partial ownership in a International 140 tractor, Hahn highboy sprayer, and I own five tobacco scaffold wagons. I haul slabs and sawdust for firing my barns using my father's two ton truck. I purchase sawdust and slabs from Anywhere Hardwood and Somewhere Sawmill in Somewhere, Kentucky which is about 45 minutes from my house. I have two burley boxes that I made in Ag Mechanics class in high school. I pay for all my operating expenses including plants, fertilizer, chemicals, sawdust, slabs, and labor.

3. Describe your marketing and/or merchandising plans for this proficiency award area.

My first two burley crops were sold on the Somewhere Tobacco Pride loose floor but this year's crop was sold to Somewhere Tobacco Pride out of the barn. After being cured, the burley is placed into three grades and bundled using tobacco press boxes. My dark-fired has always been grown for wrapper tobacco which requires some special attention but is worth it because of the added price I receive. I have always sold my dark-fired tobacco in the barn to Tobacco Supply. My dark-fired is placed into four-five grades. This year my wrapper leaf brought \$3.48 per pound and my other four grades of trash lugs, good lugs, seconds, and outleaf brought \$2.95 per pound. My dark-fired is tied into hands and bulked down before hauling it to the buyer. I have been able to produce the level of tobacco quality that has allowed me to establish a good reputation with the buyers and my plans are to continue to produce quality tobacco so I can maintain my current marketing strategy.

C. Analysis/Evaluation of Program

1. Describe your level of achievement and progress towards your goals (such as skills, scope, etc.) in this award area as related to the goals and objectives described on page 2, question 2.

The scope of my SAE has increased although not as much as I had hoped for. I have been able to produce very acceptable yields and quality which has resulted in my receiving higher prices than average. The quality and yields I have been able to achieve are the result of my developing good production skills and techniques. I have learned how to choose varieties that maximize quality and yields while at the same time reducing the chance of disease. Learning how to choose and apply chemicals has helped me reduce damage associated with weeds, insects, disease, and suckers. Skills learned in tillage, setting, topping, oiling, cutting, spiking, transporting, housing, curing, and grading have all contributed to producing a high yielding and high quality tobacco crop. My SAE has also been an important part of my FFA experience. Through my SAE I have been able to apply for this proficiency award and will allow me to someday apply for my State and American FFA degrees.

2. Describe the personal goals, educational goals, and career goals you would like to achieve in the next ten years.

Personal Goals - My goals in the next ten years are to become a fulltime farmer, buy a farm, build a house, get married, and begin a family. My first goal is to make farming profitable and become financially stable. If I can do this then the other personal goals will become a reality.

Educational Goals - I am not planning, at this time, on attending college although I realize that I could change my mind. I do want to continue to learn about agriculture and especially tobacco production. I can accomplish this by attending field days, seminars, and reading production related publications.

Career Goals - My career goal is to remain in production agriculture. As I have already stated, I want to buy a farm and be a fulltime tobacco producer. I believe I can eventually handle about 30 acres, depending on the availability of barn space. I will eventually diversify but I want to take advantage of tobacco for as long as it lasts. I also plan to take out a loan this year to purchase more equipment and pay it off over the next 5 years.

D. Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge (List your BEST 10)

1. List the major skills, competencies and knowledge (e.g. marketing, safety, personal skills development) that best describe what you gained technically and personally from this proficiency area. How do you think these skills, competencies, and knowledge contributed to your success in this award area?

Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge	Contributions to Success
1. Fertilize according to soil test.	1. Proper fertilization doesn't always ensure good yields but fertilizing by soil test allows me the potential for maximum yields with minimum fertilizer costs.
2. Use of recommended burley and dark-fired tobacco varieties.	2. I have based my variety selection on yield averages, leaf quality, and disease resistance. These three factors have allowed me to produce a quality leaf that weighs good with a reduced chance of disease.
3. Proper seedbed preparation.	3. Getting ground worked into good condition makes transplanting plants go smoothly and increases the percentage of living plants which reduces labor costs associated with resetting by hand.
4. Spotting blue mold in purchased plants.	4. By identifying blue mold before transplanting, I have reduced the affects of this very damaging disease. This has prevented big losses in yields and the cost of fungicides.
5. Use of recommended herbicides and insecticides.	5. Proper use of effective chemicals has increased quality by reducing leaf damage from insects and reducing tobacco plant competition with weeds for nutrients and water.
6. Appropriate application of sucker control agents.	6. I use both Prime-Plus and MH-30 to control sucker growth. Applying these chemicals at the proper rates and under the proper conditions helps increase quality and yield which both affect profits.
7. Use of proper harvesting techniques.	7. I have reduced leaf damage, leaf loss, and sunburn by the use of proper cutting, spiking, and handling procedures during cutting. This has helped me produce a higher quality leaf and keep yields higher.
8. Use of proper housing techniques.	8. Tobacco has to be properly spaced on the stick and spaced properly when placed in the barn. This allows good air movement which reduces mold and sweat which increases quality which affects sale price.
9. Use of proper firing and grading techniques.	9. Proper firing techniques reduces mold and sweating and produces a degree of finish that buyers want. Grading properly also is important to the buyers and keeping buyers in good standing affects marketing.
10. Marketing tobacco straight to buyer.	10. Selling straight to Tobacco Pride and Tobacco Supply allows me to avoid loose floor charges and also guarantees that my tobacco will sell for a good price.

II. Inventory Related to: SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

(Applicant's Share)

(10)

	Beginning		Ending	
	Quantity	Total Value (A)	Quantity	Total Value (B)
1. Current/Operating Inventory				
a. Candidate's investment in harvested & growing crops		\$0		\$0
b. Candidate's investment in feed, seed, fertilizer chemicals, supplies & other current/operating assets	varied	\$122	varied	\$1,150
c. Candidate's investment in merchandise, crops and livestock purchased for resale.		\$0		\$0
d. Candidate's investment in raised market livestock and poultry		\$0		\$0
2. Total Current/Operating Inventory (a+c+d)	XXXXXXXX	\$122 ⁽¹⁾	XXXXXXXX	\$1,150 ⁽²⁾
3. Non-Current/Capital Non-Depreciable Property				
a. Candidate's investment in non-depreciable draft, pleasure and breeding livestock & poultry		\$0		\$0
b. Candidate's investment in land		\$0		\$0
c. Total Non-Current/Capital Non-Depreciable Inventory	XXXXXXXX	\$0 ⁽³⁾	XXXXXXXX	\$0 ⁽⁴⁾
4. Non-Current/Capital Depreciable Inventory				
a. Candidate's investment in depreciable draft, pleasure and breeding livestock		\$0		\$0
b. Candidate's investment in machinery, equipment & fixtures		\$0		\$7,150
c. Candidate's investment in depreciable land improvements, buildings and fences		\$0		\$0
d. Total Non-Current/Capital Depreciable Inventory (a+b+c)		\$0 ⁽⁵⁾		\$7,150 ⁽⁶⁾
5. Total Non-Current/Capital Inventory (3c+4d)	XXXXXXXX	\$0 ⁽⁷⁾	XXXXXXXX	\$7,150 ⁽⁸⁾

III. Schedule of Liabilities Related to: SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

(5)

(Applicant's Share)

	Beginning (A)		Ending (B)
Current/Operating Liabilities			
(a) Total accounts and notes payable	\$0 ⁽⁹⁾		\$0 ⁽¹⁰⁾
(b) Total Current portion of non-current debt	\$0 ⁽¹¹⁾		\$0 ⁽¹²⁾
(c) Total Current Liabilities (a + b)	\$0 ⁽¹³⁾		\$0 ⁽¹⁴⁾
Non-Current/Capital Liabilities			
(d) Total notes & chattel mortgages	\$0 ⁽¹⁵⁾		\$0 ⁽¹⁶⁾
(e) Total real estate mortgages/contracts	\$0 ⁽¹⁷⁾		\$0 ⁽¹⁸⁾
(f) Total Non-Current Liabilities (d + e)	\$0 ⁽¹⁹⁾		\$0 ⁽²⁰⁾

* Transfer values for #(1) - (20) to corresponding number on page 7

IV. Scope Related To:

(Applicant's Share)

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

(5)

YEAR	2000	2001	2002
KIND OF ENTERPRISE	Burley Tobacco	Burley Tobacco	Burley Tobacco
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE	1 acre	1 acre	4 acres
KIND OF ENTERPRISE	Dark-fired Tobacco	Dark-fired Tobacco	Dark-fired Tobacco
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE	1 acre	1.5 acres	1.5 acres
KIND OF ENTERPRISE			
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			
KIND OF ENTERPRISE			
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			

V. Income and Expense

(Applicant's Share)

(15)

Summary Related To:

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

			X
Year	2000	2001	2002
1. Current/Operating Income			
a. Closing Current/ Operating Inventory	\$199	\$276	\$1,150
b. Beginning Current/ Operating Inventory	\$122	\$199	\$276
c. Change in Current/ Operating Inventory (a minus b)	\$77	\$77	\$874
d. Cash Sales	\$14,874	\$19,969	\$38,284
e. Value of Products Used at Home			
f. Value of Production Transferred or Bartered			
g. Value of Ag Labor Exchanged for Non-Cash Operating Expenses	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$5,500
h. Total Current/Operating Income (c-g)	\$15,951	\$21,546	\$44,658
2. Current/Operating Expenses			
a. Current/ Operating Inventory Purchased			
b. Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Feed			
c. Non-Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Feed			
d. Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Other	\$2,502	\$3,245	\$7,105
e. Non-Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Other	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$5,500
f. Total Current/ Operating Expenses (add a thru e)	\$3,502	\$4,745	\$12,605
3. Net Current/Operating Income (1h minus 2f)	\$12,449	\$16,801	\$32,053
4. Non-Current/Capital Transactions			
a. Closing Non-Current/Capital Inventory	\$0	\$4,500	\$7,150
b. Non-Current/Capital Sales			
c. Beginning Non-Current/Capital Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$4,500
d. Non-Current/Capital Purchases		\$5,000	\$3,500
e. Net Capital Transactions (a+b minus c minus d)	\$0	(\$500)	(\$850)
5. RETURN TO CAPITAL, LABOR & MGMT (3+4e)	\$12,449	\$16,301	\$31,203
6. TOTAL RETURN TO CAPITAL, LABOR & MGMT (5A+5B+5C+5D+5E+5F)	XXXXXXXXXX	(Years 1- 3)	\$59,953
	XXXXXXXXXX	(5A+5B+5C ONLY)	

IV. Scope Related To:

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

(Applicant's Share)

(5)

YEAR	2003	2004	2005
KIND OF ENTERPRISE			
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			
KIND OF ENTERPRISE			
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			
KIND OF ENTERPRISE			
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			
KIND OF ENTERPRISE			
SIZE OF ENTERPRISE			

V. Income and Expense

(Applicant's Share) (continued)

(15)

Summary Related To:

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

Year	2003	2004	2005
1. Current/Operating Income			
a. Closing Current/ Operating Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$0
b. Beginning Current/ Operating Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Change in Current/ Operating Inventory (a minus b)	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Cash Sales			
e. Value of Products Used at Home			
f. Value of Production Transferred or Bartered			
g. Value of Ag Labor Exchanged for Non-Cash Operating Expenses			
h. Total Current/Operating Income (c-g)	\$0	\$0	\$0
2. Current/Operating Expenses			
a. Current/ Operating Inventory Purchased			
b. Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Feed			
c. Non-Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Feed			
d. Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Other			
e. Non-Cash Current/ Operating Expenses-Other			
f. Total Current/ Operating Expenses (add a thru e)	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Net Current/Operating Income (1h minus 2f)	\$0	\$0	\$0
4. Non-Current/Capital Transactions			
a. Closing Non-Current/Capital Inventory			
b. Non-Current/Capital Sales			
c. Beginning Non-Current/Capital Inventory	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Non-Current/Capital Purchases			
e. Net Capital Transactions (a+b minus c minus d)	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. RETURN TO CAPITAL, LABOR & MGMT (3+4e)	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. TOTAL RETURN TO CAPITAL, LABOR & MGMT (5A+5B+5C+5D+5E+5F)	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	\$59,953
	XXXXXXXXXX	(Years 1 - 6)	



VI. Applicants Financial Balance Sheet Statement

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

(5)

	Beginning Value of First Year (SAE)		Ending of Last Complete Year	
	Related to Proficiency (A)	Total (B)	Related to Proficiency (C)	Total (D)
1. Current/Operating Assets				
a. Cash on-hand, checking and savings	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$19,750	\$19,750
b. Cash value - bonds, stocks, life insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Notes & accounts receivable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Current/Operating Inventory	\$122 ⁽¹⁾	\$122	\$1,150 ⁽²⁾	\$1,150
e. Total Current/Operating Assets (a+b+c+d)	\$4,622	\$4,622	\$20,900	\$20,900
2. NON-CURRENT/CAPITAL ASSETS				
a. Non-depreciable inventory (including land)	\$0 ⁽³⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽⁴⁾	\$0
b. Depreciable inventory (Includes purchased of breeding stock)	\$0 ⁽⁵⁾	\$0	\$7,150 ⁽⁶⁾	\$7,150
c. Total Non-Current/Capital Assets (a+b)	\$0 ⁽⁷⁾	\$0	\$7,150 ⁽⁸⁾	\$7,150
d. TOTAL ASSETS (1e+2c)	\$4,622	\$4,622	\$28,050	\$28,050
3. CURRENT/OPERATING LIABILITIES				
a. Accounts & notes payable	\$0 ⁽⁹⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽¹⁰⁾	\$0
b. Current portion of non-current debt	\$0 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽¹²⁾	\$0
c. Total Current/Operating Liabilities (a+b)	\$0 ⁽¹³⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽¹⁴⁾	\$0
4. NON-CURRENT/CAPITAL LIABILITIES				
a. Notes & chattel mortgages (total minus current portion)	\$0 ⁽¹⁵⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽¹⁶⁾	\$0
b. Real estate mortgages/contracts (total minus current portion)	\$0 ⁽¹⁷⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽¹⁸⁾	\$0
c. Total Non-Current/Capital Liabilities (a + b)	\$0 ⁽¹⁹⁾	\$0	\$0 ⁽²⁰⁾	\$0
d. TOTAL LIABILITIES (3c+4c)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. OWNER'S EQUITY/NET WORTH (2d minus 4d)	\$4,622	\$4,622	\$28,050	\$28,050
6. GAIN OR LOSS IN OWNER'S EQUITY	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	\$23,428 ⁽²¹⁾	\$23,428 ⁽²²⁾
7. WORKING CAPITAL (1e minus 3c) (Current Assets minus Current Liabilities)	\$4,622	\$4,622	\$20,900	\$20,900
8. CURRENT RATIO (1e divided by 3c) (Current Assets divided by Current Liabilities)	\$4,622 / to \$1	\$4,622 / to \$1	\$20,900 / to \$1	\$20,900 / to \$1
9. DEBT-TO-EQUITY RATIO (4d divided by 5) (Total liabilities divided by owners equity)	\$0.00 / to \$1	\$0.00 / to \$1	\$0.00 / to \$1	\$0.00 / to \$1

* For # (1)-(20) values are transferred from corresponding numbers on page 5.

(21) Line 5, Column (C) minus Line 5, Column (A)

(22) Line 5, Column (D) minus Line 5, Column (B)

VII. Efficiencies Attained (refer to Appendix I, II of Proficiency Award Handbook):

(5)

Efficiency Factor	Year	Level Achievement	Describe how this factor was used to manage this enterprise
Pounds per acre, burley tobacco	2000 2001 2002	2600 lbs/acre 2650 lbs/acre 2800 lbs/acre	The yields for both burley and dark-fired tobacco over the last three years are above state averages and reflects acceptable management practices that I will continue to use.
Pounds per acre, dark-fired tobacco	2000 2001 2002	2750 lbs/acre 2800 lbs/acre 3000 lbs/acre	
3 year price per pound average for selling wrapper dark-fired tobacco	2000-2002	\$3.48 per pound	
			The price received for my wrapper tobacco exceeds price average for other tobacco types such as snuff tobacco. I will continue to produce wrapper tobacco because of the added value per pond.

VIII. Non-Cash Income NOT Related to this Award Area

Year	Source of Income	Amount Received
TOTAL		\$0

IX. Earned Income NOT Related to this Award Area.

Year	Source of Income	Amount Received
TOTAL		\$0

X. Gifts, Inheritance and Other Non-Earned Income

Year	Source of Income	Amount Received
TOTAL		\$0

XI. Accounting for Change in Owner's Equity

1. Total Return to Capital Labor & Management (Section V, Line 6, Column F)	\$59,953
2. Non-Cash Income <u>NOT</u> Related to the Award Area (Section VIII)	\$0
3. Earned Income <u>NOT</u> Related to this Award Area (Section IX)	\$0
4. Gifts, Inheritances and Other Non-Earned Income (Section X)	\$0
5. Total Sources of Income (Section XI, 1+2+3+4)	\$59,953
6. Withdrawals for Personal Living, Gifts, Income Taxes Educational Expenses and All Other Personal Expenditures	
7. Maximum Possible Increase in Owner's Equity (Line 5 minus Line 6) *	\$59,953
8. Gain or Loss in Owner's Equity (Section VI, Line 6, Column D) *	\$23,428

* Note Line 7 must be equal to or exceed Line 8.

MET

RESUME

Paul White

5746 Anywhere Rd.
Anywhere, TN 37172
(555) 555-1111
Anywhere FFA

Career Objective

I am currently planning to farm fulltime after high school graduation. I want to buy a small farm sometime in the near future and I believe that expanding my SAE in the area of tobacco production I can earn the type of income that will help me reach my goal. Over time I do want to diversify into other areas of beef cattle and row crop production.

Education

Completed 3 years of instruction in Agriculture Education in high school
Ag Co-op program, 1 year
Somewhere Farm Machinery Show
Anywhere Area Tobacco Expo
Highland Rim Experiment Station Tobacco Field Day

FFA Leadership Activities/Awards

Greenhand Degree, 01
Chapter Banquet, 01, 02
Chapter FFA Degree, 02
Chapter SAE Award, 01
State FFA Leadership Camp, 01, 02
Ag Mechanics Career Development Event, Brazing/Cutting 02, 03
Livestock Judging Career Development Event, 01, 02
Anywhere District Banquet 02, 03
Middle Tennessee Awards Banquet, 02, 03
State FFA Convention, 02
Chapter Officer Leadership Training, 02
Assistant Chapter Officer 2002/2003
Specialty Crop Production Proficiency Award, regional and state winner, 03
School Leadership Activities/Awards
4-H Club, 2 years

Community Leadership Activities/Awards

Volunteer, Palm Sunday Paper Sale for Children's Hospital, 01, 02, 03

Professional Organizations

Member, Farm Bureau

Other Accomplishments

Anywhere County Fair, burley and dark-fired tobacco exhibits, 00, 01, 02
Somewhere Area Youth Tobacco Show and Sale, 00, 01

References:

John Smith
6156 Anywhere Rd.
Anywhere, TN 55555

Benny Smith
6248 Somewhere Rd.
Anywhere, TN 55555

Dan Jones
307 Somewhere Rd.
Anywhere, TN 55555

Instructor/Employee Statement

Paul had his ups and downs academically his freshman year but since then he has maintained steady grades. Paul is an intelligent young man but has some difficulty in focusing on subjects that are less interesting to him. Paul is very interested in agriculture and has therefore been an outstanding student for me. Paul is very attentive in the classroom and his assignments are always quality work and turned in on schedule. Paul has shown his best abilities in the shop and has excellent mechanical ability. I can always count on Paul when I have special assignments around the school. I only have to explain once what needs to be done and I am always confident that if he runs into problems, he has the ability to think through the problem and complete the assignment.

The FFA has provided a great source of motivation for Paul. His mother has told me that his desire to participate in FFA activities has been the main reason why he pays attention to his academic grades. Paul has been involved in our chapter's activities from day one of his freshman year and whenever he chooses to participate in a certain activity, he really works hard to be successful. Paul was a member of our Ag Mechanics team last year and spent many hours after school practicing to compete in the Brazing and Cutting skill area. Paul has worked equally hard as a member of the Livestock Judging team and has shown great improvement in that event. Paul has attended Leadership Camp for two years, has attending other leadership events, and has served as assistant officer this year, all in preparation for a future leadership role in our chapter as a chapter officer. I believe Paul will make an excellent officer because he works well with others and is a very dependable and responsible individual.

Paul is equally strong in the SAE area and has developed very productive entrepreneurship enterprises of burley and dark fired tobacco. I have visited Paul on the farm several times and have been impressed with the fact that he is very knowledgeable with respect to all areas of tobacco production. Dark-fired tobacco production is not an exact science and many a good crop has been ruined once it was in the barn. Paul has learned very quickly about how to cure dark-fired as evidenced by the fact that he continues to produce wrapper tobacco that is bought in the barn. Paul really enjoys working in tobacco and once graduates I believe he will be able to hand much more acreage.

Paul is going to be a very successful farmer one day because he is learning the necessary skills and knowledge through his SAE and is also developing beneficial leadership and personal development skills through the FFA. Based on his success to this point, I recommend Paul highly for consideration for this award.

Barry H. Baker

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Paul White

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

PHOTO # 1



After I have worked my tobacco ground with the plow and disc and just before setting, I apply Spartan which is a pre-emergence herbicide. This piece of equipment sprays the herbicide and then tills it into the soil.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Paul White

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

PHOTO # 2



I am setting burley with a carousel setter. The tank is a mixture of water, plant starter, and insecticide. I buy my plants in these styrofoam trays that hold about 100 plants each. The operator rotates the trays as they are used.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Paul White

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

PHOTO # 3



This field of dark-fired has been topped and I am applying sucker oil. The highboy boom allows me to oil six rows in one pass. Oil is applied by placing the nozzle at the top of the plant and letting the sucker oil run down the stalk.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Paul White

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

PHOTO # 4



Cutting dark-fired takes more care because the leaves are more brittle. Plants are cut, flipped upsidedown and placed back on the ground. Two rows are cut and placed together to make a single spike row. Plants are allowed to wilt and then spiked and loaded on scaffold wagons.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Paul White

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

PHOTO # 5



All of the other grades have been pulled from the stalk leaving the best grade called leaf which is what I am tying. I put about 8-10 leaves together and tie them with a single leaf folded in half at the stem end of the hand of leaves.

VI. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (continued)

C. Supporting Pictures

Paul White

SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION

PHOTO # 6



At the end of each day of stripping tobacco, the tobacco that has been tied has to be bulked down. Tobacco is bulked down to maintain the level of moisture (order) that the leaves have when stripped. Tobacco is bulked in layers with the tails overlapping.

Personal Page

Paul White



The FFA is very important to me and I try to be as active as time allows. This picture was taken of our Chapter's Ag Mechanics team that placed first in the regional event. My specialty was brazing & cutting.